CLAIMS

1. Electric hand tool comprising, in a casing (2), electrically operated components and a housing (4) to accommodate a battery (3) that powers the said components, with detachable means (10, 24) of securing the battery in its housing in a position of mechanical locking and electrical connection to the said components and in a position in which it is mechanically retained in its housing but electrically disconnected, characterized in that the securing means (24) are designed to retain the battery (3) in the electrically disconnected position only by friction (24, 31).

2. Tool according to Claim 1, in which the battery-accommodating housing (4) is designed to accommodate therein a battery by sliding, and the battery securing means comprise an electrical locking finger (10) and a mechanical retaining finger (24) both mounted so that they can move, in a direction roughly orthogonal to the direction (39) in which the battery slides, between a locked and a retaining position, respectively, and a retracted function.

3. Tool according to Claim 2, in which the locking (10) and retaining (24) fingers are mounted so that they can be moved into the retracted position against the action of elastic return means (16, 22).

4. Tool according to either of Claims 2 and 3, in which the locking finger (10) is secured to a rod (9) mounted to slide into the retracted position against the action of a return spring (16) under the action of an actuating trigger (11).

5. Tool according to one of Claims 2 to 4, in which

the retaining finger (24) is secured to a pivoting elastic leaf (22).

6. Tool according to one of Claims 2 to 5, in which the locking finger (10) and the retaining finger (24) are mounted to be moved into the retracted position, one in each of two opposite directions.

7. Battery for powering electrically operated components for the electric hand tool of the invention, characterized in that it comprises a mechanical and electrical locking catch (35) and mechanical retaining ramp means (31, 32).

8. Battery according to Claim 7, in which the locking catch (35) is formed by an undercut internal shoulder (36).

9. Battery according to either of Claims 7 and 8, in which the ramp means comprise a retaining boss (32) with an entry ramp (28) and an opposite retaining ramp (31).

10. Battery according to Claim 9, in which the retaining boss (32) is formed near the entry end (25) of the battery (3), via which end it is introduced into its accommodating housing (4) in the tool, the locking catch (35) and the retaining boss (32) being formed respectively on two opposite sides (26, 27) of the battery.